

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----071658Z 083932 /43

O 071554Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1429

CONFIDENTIAL CAIRO 2232

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FOR S/S -S

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OVIP, (VANCE, CYRUS)  
SUBJ: SECVISIT: ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS - OFFICE AND SLEEPING  
ACCOMMODATIONS

REF: STATE 17968

1. WE HAVE NOW COMPLETED INITIAL ROOM ASSIGNMENT PLAN  
BASED UPON CAREFUL ADHERENCE TO GUIDELINES SET FORTH REFTEL.  
IN DOING SO WE USED BOTH 11TH AND 12TH FLOORS NILE HILTON.  
WE MANAGED FILL 11TH FLOOR BUT WERE UNABLE USE APPROX.  
10 ROOMS AND ONE SUITE ON 12TH FLOOR. IT IS THESE REMAINING  
12TH FLOOR ROOMS WHICH NOW POSE PROBLEM AND FOR WHICH WE  
NEED ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE.

2. NILE HILTON HAS 12 FLOORS CONSISTING OF 40 ROOMS  
ON EACH FLOOR, HALF ON NILE SIDE AND HALF FACING TAHIRI  
SQUARE. ROOMS ARE REACHED FROM SINGLE, CENTRAL HALL IN  
FRONT OF ELEVATORS. HOTEL IS ARRANGED IN SLIGHT WESTWARD  
POINTING V WHICH EFFECTIVELY SEPARATES FLOORS INTO NORTH  
AND SOUTH WINGS. ONE ELEVATOR BANK IN CENTER OF HOTEL  
SERVES ALL FLOORS. THERE ARE 2 EXTERNAL STAIRCASES  
AT THE END OF EACH FLOOR. SIZE OF FLOORS AND V-SHAPED  
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ARRANGEMENT LIMITS NOISE TRANSMISSION FROM ONE END OF  
FLOOR TO OTHER, MAKING EACH WING ESSENTIALLY SEPARATE  
UNIT.

3. AS RECOMMENDED WE HAVE PLACED OFFICIAL PARTY, SPECIAL  
ASSISTANT'S OFFICE, HOLDING ROOM, SY COMMAND POST AND  
SELECTED SECURITY OFFICER BILLETING IN ENTIRE SOUTH WING

OF NILE HILTON'S 12TH FLOOR. IN SOUTH WING OF 11TH FLOOR  
WE HAVE PLACED SECRETARIAT AND SENIOR STAFF OFFICES, PLUS  
STAFF AND SY BILLETING. BECAUSE OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION  
IN BOTH SPECIAL ASSISTANT'S OFFICE AND S/S-S, SOUTH WING  
OF BOTH 11TH AND 12TH FLOOR S NEED TO BE RESTRICTED  
TO CLEARED PERSONNEL ONLY. VISITOR CONTROL ROOM, PRESS  
CONTROL ROOM AND PRESS BILLETING NOW SITUATED IN NORTH  
WING OF 11TH FLOOR. THERE WILL OF COURSE BE NO ACCESS  
CONTROL TO THIS AREA.)

4. FACT THAT WE HAVE NOT USED NORTH WING OF 12TH FLOOR  
NOW POSES PROBLEM. WE HAVE DISCUSSED SITUATION WITH  
SECURITY ADVANCE DETAIL WHICH FEELS THAT IT MOST DESIRABLE  
TO HAVE COMPLETE CONTROL OF 12TH FLOOR. IN ORDER TO DO  
SO WE NEED ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE. FOLLOWING ARE ALTERNATIVES  
FOR USE OF EXTRA 12TH FLOOR SPACE.

A. UNUSED RROMS ARE TURNED BACK TO HOTEL FOR GENERAL  
USE--- THIS WOULD MEAN THAT PERSONS OF ALL NATIONALITIES  
STAYING IN THESE ROOMS DURING SECRETARY'S VISIT WOULD  
HAVE TO HAVE ACCESS TO THEM THROUGH SINGLE 12TH FLOOR  
ELEVATOR BANK AND WOULD BE COMING AND GOING AT SAME  
TIME AS SECRETARY AND HIS PARTY. THIS IS LEAST ATTRACTIVE  
SOLUTION AND NOT ACCEPTABLE TO SY ADVANCE TEAM.

B. DEPARTMENT COULD PAY FOR ENTIRE 12TH FLOOR AND  
LEAVE ROOMS NOT USED EMPTY.

C PRESS COULD BE PLACED IN UNUSED ROOMS. THIS MIGHT  
POSE SECURITY PROBLEM, HOWEVER, SINCE IT WOULD BE  
DIFFICULT TO RESTRICT THEIR ACCESS TO SOUTH WING ROOMS AND  
OFFICES.

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D. MOVE SECRETARIAT AND SENIOR STAFF OFFICES PLUS  
STAFF BILLETING TO 12TH FLOOR THIS POSES NO PROBLEM  
IN TERMS OF NOISE OR INCREASED CORRIDOR TRAFFIC. S/S-S  
AND SENIOR STAFF OFFICE WOULD BE IN SUITE WHICH IDEALLY CONFIGURED  
FOR THIS PURPOSE AT OPPOSITE END OF FLOOR FROM OFFICIAL  
PARTY. ACCESS TO SPECIAL ASSISTANT'S OFFICE WILL HAVE TO  
BE ALONG 12TH FLOOR CORRIDOR FROM ELEVATORS EVEN IF S/S-S  
OFFICE ARE ON 11TH FLOOR BECAUSE EXTERIOR STAIRCASES FROM  
11TH FLOOR AT SOUTH END OF BUILDING WILL BE SEALED BY SY  
DURING VISIT BECAUSE ENTRANCE IS NEXT TO SECRETARY'S SUITE.  
THESE ARE SAME ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WERE MADE FOR SECVISIT  
IN FEBRUARY 1974 AND WHICH PROVED SATISFACTORY AT THAT  
TIME.

5. WE RECOMMEND, AND SY CONCURS, THAT S/S-S AND SENIOR  
STAFF OFFICES AND STAFF BILLETING SHOULD BE MOVED TO 12TH  
FLOOR (RECOMMENDATION D ABOVE). THIS WOULD LEAVE VISITORS  
CONTROL ROOMS, PRESS CONTROL ROOM AND PRESS ROOMS ON  
11TH FLOOR. LEFTOVER 11TH FLOOR SPACE COULD THEN BE

TURNED BACK TO HOTEL WITH NO ADDITIONAL SECURITY RISK  
OR EXPENSE TO USG. ALTERNATIVELY, IF THIS NOT ACCEPTABLE,  
WE BELIEVE THAT NEXT MOST PREFERABLE ARRANGEMENT IS B  
ABOVE, I.E., PAYING FOR ENTIRE 12TH FLOOR AND LEAVING  
UNUSED ROOMS EMPTY.

6. FYI: WE HAVE ALSO CONSIDERED POSSIBILITY OF MOVING  
ONLY STAFF BILLETING TO 12TH FLOOR LEAVING S/S-S OFFICES  
ON 11TH FLOOR. THIS WOULD MEAN, HOWEVER, THAT EITHER  
PRESS OR TOURISTS WOULD SURROUND THIS CLASSIFIED AREA  
AND WE COULD NOT CONTROL ACCESS TO IT ADEQUATELY. END FYI.

7. HOTEL HAS ASKED US TO CONFIRM OUR RESERVATIONS BY  
FEB. 8. REQUEST THEREFORE ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE ON  
CONFIGURATION OF 12TH FLOOR BY OPEING OF BUSINESS CAIRO  
TIME FEB. 8.

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** OVIP, (VANCE, CYRUS)  
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